

tough kind of a bill to carry. It is not the kind of bill which is conducive to reelection. If you want to introduce that kind of a bill, you find a bill that gives everyone in the state \$10 reduction on their state income tax, then you go back home and talk to a million and a half people. This impacts upon only a few people. But it is a basic, decent thing to do and we ought to support the bill and it ought to become law.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hefner and then Senator Pirsch. Senator Pirsch, would you like to speak to the bill?

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the body. I was not going to speak on this bill. You are right. It is tough to talk against motherhood, infants, babies, child care, but Senator Landis when he so eloquently spoke about this wonderful social program of the ancient or long ago, I don't know if he was a ruler or what he was, did not bring home the point of LB 112. These children were born, I assume, and were healthy infants when they were sent up to the castle. They were fastidiously attended to, he told you, with all of their needs and wants, nutritional requirements and so forth. And yet, they failed. Therein to me is the real problem of failing infants and premature births. I don't believe LB 112 is going to reach that. These children die because of lack of parenting, of that closeness with the parent and child, of more than just what we consider the basic needs of infants and children. LB 112 will not get at that. Most of the low income groups that we are talking with in the majority of this bill have these kinds of programs available, all sorts of programs across the State of Nebraska. But you have got to have the parents that care, the mother that cares enough when she is carrying that child to eat well, not to drink alcohol, which is one of the highest incident causes of retardation, not to smoke cigarettes which they are finding now to be an ever increasing cause of deformities and retardation in children with lack of oxygen to their fetal systems. So to me that did not bring home that point that LB 112 is addressing. The education program is a different thing and we have many education programs through our university systems and other federal funded programs across the state. It is very